WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method of creating a custom database in a data store connected to a computer, the method comprising:

receiving a system description of a structure of the custom database to be created;

generating the structure for the custom database based on the system description; and

generating a search engine based on the system description, wherein the search engine stores and locates data in the custom database.

2. The method of claim 1, further comprising generating a user interface to access the custom database.

3. The method of claim 1, further comprising modifying the system description and generating a new structure and search engine that are transparent.

4. The method of claim 1, wherein the system description defines a mapping of one or more abstract objects to a physical representation in the structure of the custom database.

5. The method of claim 1, wherein the structure stores data to form a relational database.

6. The method of claim 1, wherein the system description comprises a markup language file.

7. The method of claim 6, wherein the markup language file comprises an extensible markup language (XML) document.

8. The method of claim 7, wherein the XML document is created using a text editor.

9. The method of claim 7, wherein the XML file is created using a graphical user interface.

10. The method of claim 1, wherein the search engine locates data within the custom database.

11. The method of claim 1, wherein the search engine comprises a text search engine.

12. The method of claim 1, wherein the search engine comprises a high level language.

13. The method of claim 12, wherein the high level language comprises Java.

14. An apparatus for creating a custom database comprising:

a computer having a data store connected thereto, wherein the data store stores data; and

one or more computer programs, performed by the computer, for receiving a system description of a structure of the custom database to be created, for generating the structure for the custom database based on the system description, and for generating a search engine based on the system description, wherein the search engine stores and locates data in the custom database.

15. The apparatus of claim 14, further comprising generating a user interface to access the custom database.

16. The apparatus of claim 14, further comprising modifying the system description and generating a new structure and search engine that are transparent.

17. The apparatus of claim 14, wherein the system description defines a mapping of one or more abstract objects to a physical representation in the structure of the custom database.

18. The apparatus of claim 14, wherein the structure stores data to form a relational database.

19. The apparatus of claim 14, wherein the system description comprises a markup language file.

20. The apparatus of claim 19, wherein the markup language file comprises an extensible markup language (XML) document.

21. The apparatus of claim 20, wherein the XML document is created using a text editor.

22. The apparatus of claim 20, wherein the XML document is created using a graphical user interface.

23. The apparatus of claim 14, wherein the search engine locates data within the custom database.

24. The apparatus of claim 14, wherein the search engine comprises a text search engine.

25. The apparatus of claim 14, wherein the search engine comprises a high level language.

26. The apparatus of claim 25, wherein the high level language comprises Java.

27. An article of manufacture comprising a computer program carrier readable by a computer and embodying one or more instructions executable by the computer to perform steps for creating a custom database, comprising:

receiving a system description of a structure of the custom database to be created;

generating the structure for the custom database based on the system description; and

generating a search engine based on the system description, wherein the search engine stores and locates data in the custom database.

28. The article of manufacture of claim 27, further comprising generating a user interface to access the custom database.

29. The article of manufacture of claim 27, further comprising modifying the system description and generating a new structure and search engine that are transparent.

30. The article of manufacture of claim 27, wherein the system description defines a mapping of one or more abstract objects to a physical representation in the structure of the custom database.

31. The article of manufacture of claim 27, wherein the structure stores data to form a relational database.

32. The article of manufacture of claim 27, wherein the system description comprises a markup language file.

33. The article of manufacture of claim 32, wherein the markup language file comprises an extensible markup language (XML) document.

34. The article of manufacture of claim 33, wherein the XML document is created using a text editor.

35. The article of manufacture of claim 33, wherein the XML file is created using a graphical user interface.

36. The article of manufacture of claim 27, wherein the search engine locates data

within the custom database.

37. The article of manufacture of claim 27, wherein the search engine comprises a text search engine.

38. The article of manufacture of claim 27, wherein the search engine comprises a high level language.

39. The article of manufacture of claim 38, wherein the high level language comprises Java.